

High Schools That Work Key Practices

- 1** Setting high expectations
- 2** Increasing access to challenging career/technical studies
- 3** Increasing access to rigorous academic studies
- 4** Having students complete a challenging program of study
- 5** Having a structure and schedule for teachers to work together
- 6** Giving students choices for school-based and work-based learning
- 7** Having each student actively engaged in the learning process
- 8** Involving students and parents in a guidance and advisement system
- 9** Providing a structured system of extra help
- 10** Using student assessment and program evaluation data for continuous improvement

The mission of schools in the *HSTW* network is to prepare high school students for both postsecondary education and careers by having students complete a rigorous academic core and an academic, a career/technical, or a blended concentration.



High Schools That Work **Key Conditions**

- 1** Clear Mission Statement
- 2** School Board commitment
- 3** Leadership Team
(Principal, Assistant Principal, and Teacher Leaders)
- 4** Administrative support for teachers in carrying out the 10 Key Practices
- 5** Administrative support for a flexible schedule, enabling students to earn more credits

"I am most enthusiastic about the *High Schools That Work* program. I have implemented this initiative in two school districts and have personally witnessed improvements in student achievement, attendance, and discipline as a result. The data-driven decision model for improving instruction that is used by our *HSTW* schools is highly effective. This approach focuses the school, the students, and the parents on those things that matter and that produce results!"

*Dr. Karen Woodward, Superintendent
Lexington School District One*

"The *High Schools That Work* model focuses on student achievement and learning. The 10 Key Practices are a road map for reform. They've been good for our community and our school. *High Schools That Work* allows us to have access to a network of professionals from whom we can learn the latest cutting-edge practices throughout the Southeast and the United States."

*James Boyette, Principal
Fort Mill High School*

